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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

Agreement for cooperative work between Treasury Department and State and municipal representatives of California and San Francisco.

In accordance with the agreement entered into between the State and local authorities of the State of California and city of San Francisco and the Treasury Department, the work of inspection, isolation, and disinfection in Chinatown, San Francisco, is progressing under the advice and direction of Surg. J. H. White, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, assisted by the following commissioned officers of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service and acting assistant surgeons, namely:

P. A. Surg. Rupert Blue, Assistant Surgeons H. B. Parker, M. J. White, W. C. Billings, G. M. Corput, and D. H. Currie, and Acting Assistant Surgeons J. M. Flint and H. A. L. Ryfkogel, bacteriologists. A corps of interpreters, disinfectors, etc., have also been engaged.

A corps of physicians, appointed by the city authorities of San Francisco, and State representatives are also at work under the same arrangement.

Referring to the findings and full report of the special commission, as published in PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS of March 22, March 29, and April 19, 1901, and to the misstatements in certain daily and medical publications regarding an agreement made between officials of the Treasury Department and representatives of California and San Francisco, the only agreement entered into is herewith published.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. M. H. S.,
Washington, D. C., March 9, 1901.

SIR: Referring to the conference, held in accordance with your instructions after the meeting in your office this forenoon, with the representatives of the governor of California, the mayor of San Francisco, the press, the railroads, and the business interests of San Francisco, I have to inform you that an understanding has been reached, stated somewhat informally as follows:

The visiting representatives have expressed a desire for hearty cooperation of the State and city authorities interested in the work, which is made necessary in view of the report of the commission; and they desire, while this work shall be done by the city and State authorities, the services of some expert officer of the Service to give advice as to the

methods to be pursued, agreeing that his recommendations shall be carried out and that the work shall be begun at once.

I have informed them also that so far as can be seen at the present time the principles enunciated in my telegram of January 9, 1901, to Surgeon White, copy of which is inclosed, are about what should be adopted at the present time, with the understanding that it is possible that future developments may require more radical measures, though it is not expected.

It is understood also that the burden of expense falls upon the local or State authorities, though, of course, the Department will meet the salaries and incidental expenditures of its own officers.

It is the desire of the Treasury Department, as well as of the Bureau, that these affairs shall be conducted with the least possible interruption to commerce and the least possible excitation of alarm.

Surgeon White, now in San Francisco, is the officer of the Service who will be the representative of the Bureau and of the Department in this matter, and who, it is understood, is entirely acceptable to all parties.

Respectfully,

WALTER WYMAN,
Supervising Surgeon-General U. S. M. H. S.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 9, 1901.*

SIR: Regarding plague in San Francisco you might say situation not acute. Experience Oporto, Santos, and Glasgow, and climatic conditions in San Francisco make it more a matter of future menace as instanced in British Journal December 1, page 1614. Present in Calcutta two years before acknowledged. Therefore, more to prevent future catastrophe than from present alarm, measures should be taken as necessity arises. Nor need they be in such manner as to excite alarm, but should include inspection, isolation, and disinfection, just as in smallpox. Assured of this, publication would be unnecessary. Use this as your judgment dictates.

Respectfully,

WYMAN.

Dr. J. H. WHITE, *Occidental Hotel, San Francisco, Cal.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL U. S. M. H. S.,
Washington, D. C., March 11, 1901.

SIR: I transmit herewith a letter, dated March 9, from the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, outlining the understanding which has been arrived at between yourselves and this Department as a result of the conference on March 9.

In transmitting the same I wish to express the appreciation of this Department of the visit of your committee and its spirit of friendly conference. I trust, also, that the result so earnestly desired by both yourselves and the Department will be speedily achieved and by methods that may be effective without causing undue alarm.

The Department will appreciate an acknowledgment.

Respectfully,

O. L. SPAULDING,
Acting Secretary.

Hon. JOHN P. YOUNG,

Chairman committee representing the Governor, Mayor of San Francisco, and business interests of California, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 11, 1901.*

SIR: The commissioners appointed by the governor of the State of California and the mayor of the city and county of San Francisco to confer with the authorities of the

United States at Washington, D. C., concerning the health conditions of California, have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, inclosing letter dated March 9, 1901, from Surgeon-General Wyman to yourself and telegram dated January 9, 1901, from Surgeon-General Wyman to Dr. J. H. White.

In the above-mentioned letter and telegram of Surgeon-General Wyman it is in substance recommended that measures should be taken to secure the inspection and isolation of all supposed cases of plague in San Francisco, and the disinfection of all infected premises therein, such measures being deemed entirely adequate in view of present conditions to prevent the spread of plague and to eradicate the same.

While the existence of plague in San Francisco has been denied, yet in view of the reasonable recommendations of Surgeon-General Wyman, indorsed by yourself, and in order that the public health may be protected against any possible danger and that all questions as to the existence of plague in San Francisco may be put at rest by the adoption and enforcement of adequate measures for its extermination the commissioners are pleased, in behalf of the State of California and of the city and county of San Francisco, to accept said recommendations and to agree that the same shall be promptly and efficiently carried out by the health officers of the State of California or of the city and county of San Francisco, and are further pleased to accept, in the execution of said recommendations, the advice and cooperation of Dr. J. H. White, whose services in that behalf are kindly tendered by the United States Government.

The commissioners have the honor to express to you their most sincere appreciation of the exceptionally kind and courteous consideration received by them at your hands.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. YOUNG,
FREMONT OLDER,
WM. F. HERRIN,
H. T. SCOTT,
T. T. WILLIAMS.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Postponement of certain restrictions upon nonimmune travel from Cuba until
May 15, 1901.*

[Department Circular No. 48.]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., April 29, 1901.

To quarantine officers and collectors of customs of the United States:

Provisions of Department Circular No. 43, Marine-Hospital Service, dated April 10, 1901, permitting, until May 1, travel from Cuba of non-immunes after their inspection at port of departure, including the necessary disinfection of effects, and including northern ports, are hereby extended to May 15, 1901.

All vessels, persons, and effects are to leave Cuba under the supervision of an accredited medical officer of the Marine-Hospital Service. Health certificates will be furnished passengers, and second-class and other doubtful baggage will be sterilized and vessels disinfected when necessary. Close quarantine restrictions will be declared immediately should necessity arise.

L. J. GAGE,
Secretary.